

## MICRO-INVASIVE BREAST BIOPSY DEVICE

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

5       An apparatus for removing tissue and/or other material  
from a patient, particularly a breast of a patient, is  
provided. The apparatus generally includes a handpiece and  
a tissue removal mechanism connected thereto. The tissue  
removal mechanism includes a cannula having an open distal  
10       tip and an outer diameter of less than about 5 mm, or less  
than about 2 mm. The mechanism further includes a  
rotatable element having a distal portion with helical  
threading. The distal portion of the rotatable element  
extends beyond the open distal tip of the cannula in order  
to allow tissue to prolapse between turns of the helical  
15       threading. The apparatus is designed to draw soft tissue  
into the cannula upon rotation of the rotatable element and  
without the need for supplemental sources of aspiration.